

COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Tuesday, April 28, 4:30 p.m.

Casper City Hall

Council Meeting Room

AGENDA

1. Downtown Development Authority Wyoming Business Council Grant Request
2. Property Acquisition – Source Gas repurchase from Amoco Reuse Agreement Joint Powers Board (ARABJPB)
3. Wyoming Smart Capital Network Economic Benefit Certificate – Ward Gas
4. Federal Offender Release Facilities
5. Option One Cent #14
6. Strategic Goal Objectives
7. Robert's Rules of Order
8. Future Agenda Review
9. Council Around the Table

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Mayor Powell called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. with the following Councilmembers present: Councilmen Cathey, Hopkins, Mundell, Pacheco, and Sandoval. Councilmen Hedquist, Johnson and Schlager were absent.

Kevin Hawley, Executive Director with the Downtown Development Authority (DDA), spoke to Council regarding the project to bring an events driven public plaza to the downtown and Old Yellowstone District. The DDA through the Economic Development Joint Powers Board (EDJPB) is applying for the Wyoming Business Council Community Enhancement Grant in the amount of \$500,000.00. In order to proceed with the EDJPB application sponsorship, the DDA will need a resolution of support from the City Council. Council gave thumbs up support. City Attorney Luben will prepare a resolution of support for Council's consideration.

Diane Wolverton, Executive Director with Wyoming Smart Capital Network, presented an overall review and status update on projects regarding economic development for small businesses. Included in the presentation were updates on four projects in the Casper area, in which collateral support was provided (including a medical center, health center, rock crushing company, and plumbing company). The Consortium includes 17 participating municipalities, including Casper.

Continuing with the presentation, Mark Huston, shared additional information regarding loan term programs for future business investments. Often the businesses that are supported are start-up businesses. Mr. Huston shared details on an upcoming project in the Evansville area involving "seed investing" with Ward Alternative Energy (a natural gas provider for C&G fleet) and elaborated on the economic benefits to the City of Casper. The request to Council is for consideration of a resolution for a Warranty of Significant Economic Benefit. Council indicated support.

Liz Becher, Planning and Community Development Director, presented information regarding the property acquisition with Source Gas repurchase from Amoco Reuse Agreement Joint Powers Board (ARABJPB). Funding is currently available in the revolving land fund in the City budget. Request to Council is for approval to move forward with the repurchase of the property. Council thanked the ARABJPB for their patience and agreed to support the repurchase.

City Manager Patterson presented Strategic Goal Objectives to Council. To achieve these goals, staff has developed measurable objectives for each goal. The presented document, entitled 2015 Council Goals (And Supporting Objectives), is a compilation of the Goals and Objectives. This is a fluid document and will be updated annually. Additionally, the City Council will see in future Regular Council Meeting agendas reference to the Goal each business item relates to. This will provide a continual tie between individual business items Council acts upon and the Goals and Supporting Objectives. City Manager Patterson indicated Goal Outcomes will be reflected in the budget process and annual report that shows the success and achievement of the particular goals.

Chief Wetzel, presented to Council an informational letter the Casper Police Department received from the Northwest Community Action Programs of Wyoming, Inc., d/b/a/ NOWCAP Services. This letter is announcing their intent to submit an offer to a Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) Request for Proposal (RFP) for Residential Re-Entry Center (RRC) services and Home Confinement (HC) services for federal offenders releasing to the Casper/Natrona County vicinity. The solicitation requires interested service providers to provide a pre-submission notification and seek input from local law enforcement. NOWCAP Services is seeking to repurpose their current facility at 345 N. Walsh Dr. to meet the requirements of the BOP RFP and provide RRC/HC services for federal offenders. Assessing the impact of an increased federal offender population through the lens of public safety risk to the citizens of Casper, the Casper Police Department cannot endorse NOWCAP Services' proposed facility or the CRC's expansion/growth of the offender population at their current facility. These details are being presented to Council for informational purposes only.

Assistant City Manager, V.H. McDonald submitted details to Council regarding un-allocation Optional One Cent #14 revenue available as of March 31, 2015 for appropriation is \$24,150,385, inclusive of net investment earnings to date. In addition, information was provided regarding historic uses of optional one cent revenue.

Next, City Manager Patterson began the discussion regarding un-allocated Optional One Cent #14. He indicated four projects have already received prior support from Council: The Plaza \$3 million, YMCA \$2 million, Waste Water Treatment Plant \$2 million and River Revival \$1.5 million. In addition, two Pipeline projects: Hogadon Lodge \$6 million and the Events Center storage project for \$500,000. For internal project funding, the detail will be presented as part of budget adjustments presented to Council.

Councilman Hopkins said he has always been supportive of the \$34 million Perpetual Care Fund and believes this is reasonably taken care of. At this time, the City is perhaps in a

position to do something different. Councilman Hopkins suggests of the \$9.1 million: \$200,000-\$300,000 into an opportunity fund for something along the lines of Casper Mountain trails projects.

Councilman Cathey shared the need for improvements at the Waste Water Treatment Plant in the next few years. This is one of the basic needs of government and where the City funds are expected to be spent. His recommendation is to consider funding from the \$9.1 million for waste water projects. Mayor Powell stated there is already \$2 million spoken for the emergency generation.

Councilman Pacheco suggests there needs to be accountability to the public for the remaining \$9.1 million (of the \$24 million) and perhaps saving some of this funding should also be considered.

City Manager Patterson shared a couple of points, Perpetual Care \$3 million in 1%#15, four years from now the \$34 million will be \$37 million, plus additional earned interest, so that's healthy. In addition to the \$2 million for the Waste Water Treatment Facility, \$3 million 1%#15, plus over the years there have been tens of millions of dollars spent on the sewer system. Mr. Patterson also said he will be putting together specific figures as to how much funding out of one cent funding has been placed into the Waste Water Treatment Facility over the years. Consideration of hanging onto the \$9.1 million isn't a bad idea. This funding will be the last source for funding Council will have the next four years. Also keep in mind, the City anticipates a surplus in the budget as departments budget all employee salaries at 100% (approximately \$1 million), there has never been use of 100% of the employee salary budget.

Councilman Mundell suggested focusing on the goals for direction for the spending. She indicates decisions may need to consider questioning if now is the time to proceed with a project with the unknowns with the economy. While supporting the downtown plaza, Councilman Mundell stated there is a greater responsibility for the Waste Water Treatment Facility upgrades. Guidelines and priorities are a must on how the funding should be spent.

Mayor Powell spoke next; opening with the needs at the Waste Water Treatment Facility could potentially be the \$9.1 million. Councilman Hopkins said it is necessary for opportunities to invest as well as to match funds. However, there may be EPA federal matching should there be funding in an opportunity fund with the future needs of the Waste Water Treatment Facility.

City Manager Patterson spoke to the previously mentioned trails projects for Casper Mountain (from Casper College to Rotary Park) which would cost another \$300,000 including funding added to previous dollars given and funds collected by the Platte River Trails Trust. If you take off \$150,000 and add to the proceeds to the sale of the two lots along the river, should total the \$300,000 easily and accomplish this project if Council wanted to proceed. The remaining \$9 million could be placed into opportunities funds. Council supported this concept.

Councilman Sandoval suggested put \$6 million into Perpetual Care to continue the interest increase so that the City could use those funds to maintain facilities. This will leave \$3

million for immediate needs. He believes there are citizens with financial needs that will be approaching Council in the future. Mayor Powell stated he does not want to be a member of the first Council that put too much into Perpetual Care and then had more immediate needs that were not addressed. Further, Mayor Powell agrees with not touching the remainder of the funds. The Waste Water Treatment Plant would be at the top of the list for usage of those funds should need. Councilman Cathey agrees that this money should remain with the City infrastructure and maintain the funds.

City Manager Patterson clarified Council's discussion for the remaining \$9 million to be placed in an opportunities fund to be used primarily for City's basic infrastructure projects (ie: water, sewer, streets, and public safety). Mayor Powell noted the Sewer Fund is depleted and may need assistance. Councilmembers agreed.

City Attorney Luben presented council with a Parliamentary Procedure Guide (Robert's Rules of Order) to Council. Mr. Luben shared underlying principle, procedures and overview as well as addressed Council's inquiries.

City Manager Patterson presented Council with review of the future agenda.

Councilmembers reported updates for each of their respective board meetings.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

ATTEST:

CITY OF CASPER, WYOMING
A Municipal Corporation

V. H. McDonald
City Clerk

Charlie Powell
Mayor